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taken for one individual. One of these trees is a White Oak, the other being a Black Birch, and from seedlings on, their growth has been so even that neither one has gained any advantage over the other. For the space of 3 ft. 7 in. from the roots they have grown solidly together, so that the line of juncture is no more marked than the weather worn crevices down the sides of many large trees, the character of the bark serving as the best guide in distinguishing the trunk of one tree from that of the other. At the height mentioned from the ground the trunks part or branch, forming a Y, the oak being 4 ft. 2 in. in circumference, and the birch 4 ft. 5 in., while the main trunk, formed by both trees, measures 7 ft. 4 in. around.

It is no uncommon matter to find cedar branches, owing to their unliability, enclosed by the trunks of other trees, and some species often become grafted together, but the case mentioned seems to be interesting as a departure from these general rules, and also from the symmetrical outline that has been maintained.

W. T. DAVIS.

Index to Recent American Botanical Literature.

Agarum Turneri.—*On the Anatomy and Development of*. James Elias Humphrey. (Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sciences, xxii., pp. 195-204; two plates; also reprinted.)

This investigation is the seventh contribution from the cryptogamic laboratory of Harvard University, conducted under the direction of Dr. Farlow. Mr. Humphrey finds that the structure of the adult frond of this curious Alga agrees closely with that of *Laminaria*, that the frond increases in length at the union of stipe and lamina, and that the perforations of the latter begin when a length of 3 to 4 centimetres is attained, and are formed by the simultaneous formation of an indentation of one surface and the death of a corresponding portion of the other.

Azalea nudiflora.—(Vick's Ill. Month. Mag., ix., p. 294; colored figure.)

Bacteria apparatus—*Home made*.—T. J. Burrill. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 276, illustrated.)

Biology of Timber Trees with special reference to the requirements of Forestry.—B. E. Fernow. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 247.)

Botany at the American Association for the Advancement of Science.—(Am. Nat. xx., 1886; Bot. Gazette, xi., pp. 221-229.)

Bracts in Cruciferæ.—Thomas Meehan. (Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sci., 1886, p. 60.) *Alyssum (Koniga) maritimum* is cited as an exception to the general rule that the flowers of Cruciferæ are bractless.

Certain Chemical Constituents of Plants considered in relation to their Morphology and Evolution.—Helen C. De S. Abbott. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 270.)

This paper advocates the use of chemical analysis as a factor in classification, and adduces some interesting examples of similarity between the morphological and chemical characteristics of several groups of plants.

Desmodium molle, DC. John Donnell Smith. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 274.)

This name should be dropped from the catalogue, as the plant proves to be *D. tortuosum*, DC.

Dodecatheon—*Essay toward a Revision of.* Asa Gray. (Bot. Gazette, xi. p. 231.)

Forests of Canada. R. Bell. (Canad. Rec. Sci., ii)

Formation of Crow's Nest Branches in the Cherry Tree.—Thomas Meehan. (Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sci., 1886, pp. 273, 274.)

The garden cherry has long been naturalized near Philadelphia, and Mr. Meehan had noticed this curious fasciation of the branches on three of these wild trees. He had made the interesting discovery that the fasciation is simply the growth to weak branches of what would normally be flower bearing shoots, the leaves being destroyed in spring by the fungus *Exoascus Wilsneri*, a European form closely allied to *E. deformans*, the species causing the "curl" in peach leaves.

Charles Christopher Frost. Wm. R. Dudley. (Journ. Mycol., ii., pp. 114-118.)

An interesting sketch of the life of one of the pioneers in American cryptogamic botany.

John Goldie, gardener and botanist. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 272.)

The discoverer of *Aspidium Goldieanum* died June last in Canada West.

Gymnosporangia of the United States.—The Development of the.

W. G. Farlow. (Bot Gazette, xi., pp. 234-241; reprinted.)

Houstonia cœrulea. (Vick's Ill. Month. Mag., ix., p. 294; colored figures.)

Hypericum—*Some Notes on.* J. M. Coulter. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 275.)

H. Kalmianum has been found in Central Tennessee, and a new species named by Dr. Gattinger *H. lobocarpum* is also reported from W. Tennessee, which seems to be a center for this group, as eighteen species are found there.

Kellermannia. J. B. Ellis and B. M. Everhart (Journ. Mycol., ii., p. 111.)

The characters of the genus are amended, and two new species described.

Lichens collected in Florida in 1885. W. W. Calkins. (Journ. Mycol., ii., pp. 112-114; reprinted.)

A catalogue of 73 species with habitats.

Liverworts. J. L. Zabriskie. (Journ. N. Y. Micros. Soc., ii. pp. 105, 106.)

The paper contains notes on *Marchantia polymorpha*, L., and *Fimbriaria tenella*, Nees.

Lygodium palmatum, and other N. A. Ferns. Garden, xxx., p. 324, illustrated.)

Mistletoe.—Additional Facts about the. G. Onderdonk. (Gard. Month., xxviii., p. 308.)

Morphology of superimposed Stamens. Thomas Meehan. (Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sci., 1886, pp. 9-11; two figures.)

Mr. Meehan concludes, after a study of *Mahernia verticillata*, Cav., and other plants, that "in many cases superimposed stamens are the development of theoretical axial buds at the base of the petals" being thus of a cauline rather than of a phylline nature. He remarks that this theory relieves us of the difficulty met in the supposed interjection of an extra whorl of leaves in the production of these structures, for which there is no warrant in phyllotaxis.

Peronospora graminicola, Schr. Byron D. Halsted. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 272, illustrated.)

Platystemon Californicus. (Garden, xxx., p. 313, illustrated.)

Pollination of Asclepias.—*Notes on the Mode of*. Charles Robertson. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 262, illustrated.)

Quercus alba.—*The Structure of*. P. H. Dudley. (Journ. N. Y. Micros. Soc., ii., pp. 107, 108.)

An interesting account of the formation and structure of the wood.

Ravenelia glandulæformis.—*The Morphology of*. G. H. Parker. (Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sciences, xxii., pp. 205-219, two plates; reprinted.)

Secretion of nectar in Libonia.—*Production of nectar in Ornithogalum coarctatum*. Thomas Meehan. (Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sci., 1886, p. 59.)

Smilacina bifolia. "The One-blade." (Garden, xxx., p. 337.)

A very pretty illustration accompanied by a short description of its use as a rock-plant, and for carpeting shady places.

Sporobolus cryptandrus.—*Expulsion of the Seeds of*. W. J. Beal. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 247.)

Stamen of the Deerberry, Vaccinium stamineum. J. L. Zabriskie. (Journ. N. Y. Micros. Soc., ii., p. 109.)

Testa of the seeds of Phytolacca. Chas. W. Stockbarger. (Bot. Gazette, xi., p. 274, illustrated.)

Timber.—*The Uses of our Native*. W. C. Butler. (Gard. Month., xxviii., pp. 306, 307.)

Triceratium.—*Five Species of*. E. A. Schultze. Journ. N. Y. Micros. Soc., ii., p. 110; two plates.)

These Diatoms were photographed from slides prepared by Professor Thum, of Leipzig, the material being obtained from Barbadoes. The excellent plates were made by the artotype process. Mr. Schultze was able to identify but one of the species; the others have been submitted to Prof. A. Schmidt.

Vancouveria hexandra. (Garden, xxx., p. 263, illustrated.)

Vegetable Parasites of Codfish. W. G. Farlow. (Bull. U. S. Fish Comm.)

Viola pedata. (Garden, xxx., p. 141, illustrated.)

Zephyranthes Atamasco. H. Nehrling. (Gard. Mon., xxviii., p. 309.)

Note is made that in the Suwanee district of Florida this fine *Amaryllis* is known as the "Suwanee Lily," and that both white and rose colored forms occur there.